

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1430

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to complete a study of the feasibility of establishing the National Parks Institute in Central California.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH (for himself and Mr. CARDOZA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to complete a study of the feasibility of establishing the National Parks Institute in Central California.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Parks Insti-
5 tute Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions
8 shall apply:

9 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 (2) INSTITUTE.—The term “Institute” means
2 the entity to be known as the National Parks Insti-
3 tute as described in section 3(a).

4 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL PARKS INSTITUTE STUDY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
6 conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing
7 an academic institution, to be called the National Parks
8 Institute and located in Central California, to promote
9 management and stewardship excellence for the National
10 Park System, and to help developing nations manage their
11 natural and cultural resources.

12 (b) ASSESSMENT OF NEED.—In evaluating the need
13 for the Institute, the study shall assess—

14 (1) the availability of opportunities for aca-
15 demic, governmental, and nongovernmental sectors
16 to pursue scientific research and policy analysis on
17 issues related to the preservation and enjoyment of
18 the natural and cultural resources in the National
19 Park System, including opportunities for—

20 (A) forecasting emerging issues in manage-
21 ment of the National Park System and ana-
22 lyzing alternative responses to those issues;

23 (B) generating and promoting ideas for
24 improved practices in the stewardship of the
25 National Park System, including environ-

1 mentally sustainable resources management
2 practices; and

3 (C) recognizing and responding to evolving
4 interests among the public in natural and cul-
5 tural resource subjects;

6 (2) the capability of existing National Park
7 Service training centers and programs to fulfill edu-
8 cation and training needs identified in the workforce
9 plan developed by the National Park Service on the
10 basis of the Department of the Interior's Strategic
11 Human Capital Management Plan (September
12 2002);

13 (3) the benefits of further promoting the na-
14 tional park concept among developing nations and
15 helping those nations manage their natural and cul-
16 tural resources; and

17 (4) other factors the Secretary considers appro-
18 priate in determining the need for the Institute.

19 (c) FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—If the Secretary
20 determines that a need exists for the Institute as described
21 in subsection (a), the study shall evaluate—

22 (1) the costs associated with constructing, oper-
23 ating and maintaining the Institute;

1 (2) the feasibility of entering into a partnership
2 with an academic entity for purposes of establishing
3 and operating the Institute;

4 (3) potential locations for the Institute or proc-
5 esses for determining such locations;

6 (4) the appropriateness and feasibility of broad-
7 ening the purposes of the Institute to include sci-
8 entific research and education relevant to other land
9 management agencies; and

10 (5) any other matters related to the feasibility
11 of establishing and operating the Institute that the
12 Secretary deems appropriate.

13 (d) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 2 years
14 after funding is made available for the study, the Sec-
15 retary shall transmit the results of the study, including
16 the Secretary's recommendations, if any, for establishing
17 an Institute, to the Committee on Resources of the House
18 of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and
19 Natural Resources of the Senate.

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